

Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Blueway Analysis and Plan

Advisory Committee Meeting 3 Summary – 5.5.09

Date: May 5, 2009

Duration: 1:00 – 2:30

Location: Genesee Waterways Center ~ Rochester, NY

In Attendance:

Nicole Fulle, Genesee Waterways Center

Todd Lippa, NYS Canal Corporation

Laura Arney, Rochester Regional Group of the Sierra Club

Jerry Koehler, Finger Lakes—Ontario Watershed Paddlers (FLOW)

Paul Bardotz, Genesee Waterways Center

Staff:

Brian Slack, Tom Kicior

Meeting Summary:

Welcome and Introductions

Recap Progress Made to Date

- Brian sent out maps to committee members that had requested them in order to give suggestions for access points. Continue to send him information on any thing that we are missing. **Please return these maps to Brian by the end of May** so that the information can be entered onto maps to be used at the upcoming stakeholder workshops.

Stakeholder Workshop Preparation

- Stakeholder Workshops are needed to both engage and inform the paddling community and other stakeholders as well as to get their thoughts and reactions on the project and allow them to add any information that we may have missed.
- We are required to have a minimum of three stakeholder meetings but we may wish to have more.
- The meetings will take place on weekday nights during or around the week of June 15th in a few various parts of the region. Batavia would be a good option for the west side of the region, but the county facilities in Albion are available as a backup option. One meeting will occur in the East; Geneva will be the first choice for a meeting on the East side of the region and Penn Yan will be the second option. For the central area we will probably have two meetings, depending on interest. Possible meeting places would be Rochester (Genesee Waterways Center, or Cornell Cooperative Extension site), and Geneseo, or Avon.
- Attendees will receive a packet that will include a questionnaire, agenda, copy of the power point, and a survey so that everyone can give their comments(this will also be available online)
- Anticipated Agenda of Workshops:
 - General Presentation of Project
 - Q&A
 - Break

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- Maps displayed and presented
- Discussion of Maps and any access points/Blueways that the stakeholders believe we should include
- We do not have a great sense of how many people will be interested in attending but we do not want any more than 30 people at each meeting. People will not be turned away at the door, although we are not inviting the general public to attend.
- Brian is going to draft an invitation letter describing what the meetings will be about and asking those interested in attending to RSVP.
- We will look into the GTC regional trails initiative (upon which this workshop format was modeled) to see how their stakeholder process worked and if there's anything we can learn from it.
- A preliminary list of stakeholders to invite was circulated. The Advisory Committee was asked to review and consider additional groups or individuals...
 - G/FLRPC will review past projects that involved the Genesee River and other similar watersheds to see if there are names to add
 - While email lists exist, we want to avoid blanket invitations to large groups of people; invitations need to target the directors or chairs of groups and have a few representatives from each group come.
 - Locally-elected officials will be included, using the municipalities where preliminary blueways have been identified
- Other groups to consider adding to our mailing list:
 - Land trust groups should be invited.
 - Rochesterenvironment.com – Frank ?Regan? (ask Laura) has an online network.
 - CEI – Center for Environmental Information
 - Eastern Mountain Sports, Gander Mnt., Dicks Sporting Goods
 - Genesee Valley Greenway
 - Finger Lakes Trails
 - State Representatives - Senator Alesi and Senator Robach.
 - Colleges might have paddling groups – RIT, UofR
 - Consider some of the presenters or exhibitors for the ADK outdoor expo. (We have been invited to set up an info table there)
- **Advisory Committee members are asked to review the preliminary list of stakeholders and provide Brian with any additions by May 13th. G/FLRPC will try to complete the mailing by May 15th .**

Review Next Steps

- Find facilities to hold stakeholder meetings (Brian).
- Letters will be mailed a week from Friday.
- Send Brian any other ideas for stakeholders who should be invited to meetings by Friday.
- If you requested a preliminary blueway map, remember to send Brian any comments by the end of May...